

Media release:

JOINT FINAL CONFERENCE of PROLINE-CE and CAMARO-D projects

During the last two and a half years, the Forest Department of the Austrian Federal Ministry of Sustainability and Tourism had the pleasure to act as a Lead Partner for two INTERREG projects, running almost simultaneously, but with different focal points and also co-financed by two different INTERREG programs: PROLINE-CE is co-funded by the CENTRAL EUROPE program whereas CAMARO-D is running in the Danube Transnational Programme. In the last month of the project duration of each project, the Austrian Lead Partner, together with the project partner Vienna Water organizes the

Joint Final Conference
3-4 June 2019 at Stubenring 1, 1010 Vienna (1st floor, Gobelinsaal)

The projects' background:

Both projects are dealing with water related issues. This is the common basis and the main reason for a joint conference, creating synergies and enabling knowledge exchange: While the main objective of PROLINE-CE was the creation of measure bundles for an improved protection of drinking water resources, the focus of CAMARO-D was laid on the development of a catchment-based approach to improve long-term water resource protection and flood risk mitigation, mainly concentrating on land-use planning issues.

Many efforts were conducted by both project consortia during project lifetime, resulting in the following main outputs, some of which were also tested in the projects' pilot areas:

- Best Practice manuals and catalogues for adequate land-use and water management were created, with the aim to protect (drinking) water resources and to mitigate flood risk, considering also climate change related issues.
- Two decision support tools were designed: GOWARE – Transnational Guide towards an optimal water regime and GUIDR – Guidance for sustainable land use planning, based on the developed best practices. Moreover, their effectiveness was evaluated by means of the involvement of affected stakeholders (water supplier, farmers, foresters, spatial planners, interest groups and governmental institutions)
- Two strategy papers (DriFLU – Drinking Water/Floods/Land use Charta and LUDP – Land use development planning concept) were elaborated by each partnership and will be signed, focusing on prospects for action for function-oriented land use for the Central Europe area and the Danube River Basin. The overall goal is a future

sustainable protection of (drinking) water resources and an improved flood management on transnational and national level.

During the Final Conference, the first day (03.06.2019) will be dedicated to the presentations of the main outcomes of the two projects. In the afternoon, future challenges in solving conflicts of interest between land use and water management will be discussed with experts coming from different field of actions and having broad experiences also on transnational level.

On the second day (04.06.2019), during an official act, the strategy papers will be signed by notable representatives of each participating country, pushing the visibility of the conducted activities and the related experiences made during the project duration.